Increases, reratings, etc.:

July 1, 1899;

SUMMARY.



Tribune.

OF DEPARTURE

To care for him who has borne the mittle, and for his widow and orphans."

ESTABLISHED 1877-NEW SERIES.

WASHINGTON, D. C., THURSDAY, AUGUST 30, 1900.

IX-NO. 47-WHOLE NO. 994.

his subscription.

THE 34th NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT, G.A.R.

Address of Commander-in-Chief Shaw.

AN ABLE REVIEW OF THE YEAR.

Strength and Unity of the Order-Notable Events-Pensions-The Court of Pension Appeals-Patriotic Teaching-Memorial Day. Allied Associations-The Outlook.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE ORDER 276,662.

thanimous election as your Commander- nia, Ohio, Illinois, Maryland, Delaware, in-Chief one year ago placed me at the and later to Massachusetts, Rhode Island, head of the greatest patriotic organization and Connecticut. I also visited Iowa, in the world, and it has been my ambition Michigan, Wisconsin and Colorado and to worthily discharge the manifold duties other Departments. At each of these visof this great office. To this end I have itations I delivered addresses and fredevoted all my time to the demands of the quently more than one, thus endeavoring position in the endeavor to make good my to promote the welfare of comrades, and promise made on entering upon the work so increase the influence and command rerender an account of my stewardship, and best efforts to this service. And it has to make such recommendations as seem been a great delight to thus engage in such desirable at the close of the year of serv- a noble work.

the Nation, calling upon them to unite in eration brought the best available an earnest effort to build up our member- sources of the Order. It was believed ship through prudent and wise considera- unless wise and desirable amendm tion of the claims of comradeship. Special were secured to the act of June 27, 1 reference was made to the "dropped" and during the year, there would be gr "suspended" members, and the need of doubts whether these could ever be Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty, in the tained. With this view of the situa largest sense, in the line of securing the a plan of campaign was early agreed aid and comfort of all veterans of the on, and the work begun. Your Comme

The result of this appeal has been most science of the Nation in two addresss gratifying as a whole. Department Com- one delivered in New York and the other 78 are not reversals strictly speaking; 64 behalf of this great organization.

and one that has no equal in its unique objects and membership, the fact is, that constant effort is necessary to insure its gratification to your Commander-in-Chief and it affords me the greatest pleas to know that during the past year a rethis policy of fraternity in all depart-

THE "DEWEY DAY" PARADE.

The question of submitting to a rear as signment for the aged comrades of the Grand Army in the Civil Pageantry of patriotism in the Dewey Parade in New York led to a somewhat earnest protest, and the final refusal to march at all. This action was based upon the belief that the heroes who saved the Nation to full union and unchallenged liberty, and so made it possible for the great Admiral Dewey to win the honors of Manila Bay, entitled them to march in glory and in joy at the head of the line, in his honor. The loyalty of comrades in refusing to march-under the protest of that splendid comrade and Department Commander, Joseph W. Kay, was as prudent and timely as it was commendable. Some phases of that unpatriotic occurrence would have been severely dealt with had it not been for a fraternity which overlooked the goodnatured weakness of several comrades whose lack of the plainest knowledge and observance of Grand Army regulations and obligations was almost amusingly displayed.

Your Commander in Chief fully inderses the right action of Department Command er Kay, and desires to thank the comradefor their object lesson of loyalty to the Grand Army, and to the dignity and hono of the saviors of the Republic. Unles survivors of the Great War march at th front in all such pageantries, they should not consent to appear in line. No sophis as to troops "carrying arms" can hav force, in the light of the glorious services of the veterans of the Union, so far as a place in the line is concerned.

REPORTS OF NATIONAL OFFICERS. I respectfully refer you to the able re-

ports of National officers of the Grand ous branches under their supervision These will prove how zealously and worthily the work committed to their care has been done, and are evidences of rare fitness for the trusts committed to their keeping Entire harmony and faithful services have marked the relations of these officials, and my best thanks are due them for the most efficient manner in which they have discharged their respective duties.

GRAND ARMY FINANCES.

eral will clearly present the financial rec- of the considerate judgment of comrades ord of the past year, and in view of the and the country: important work accomplished it is confidently believed that the exhibit will be generally satisfactory. The finances of the Order are in excellent condition and the by classes, viz: Woman's Relief Corps are entitled to cordial praise for their generous aid. My vis-Itations in the interest of the Order have been both extensive and laborious, as has been my correspondence. This has taxed my own and my typewriter's almost constant efforts to keep up with the same. I commenced a splendid itinerary on March 3, which embraced the Departments of Virginia, North and South Carolina, Florida, Louisiana and Mississippi, Texas, Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Indiana, Mis-

Comrades: The honor conferred by my | ginia. Later I made visits to Pennsylva-

My first official act was to send out a garded the pension question as one of fraternal circular letter to the comrades of paramount importance, and to its consider-in-Chief appealed to the public noble Order, through personal efforts in lem and demanding the fulfillment of the pledged faith of the people in all pension While the Grand Army of the Republic is a fraternal and reminiscent Order, is a fraternal and reminiscent Order, it is a fraternal and reminiscent order, and the beautiful to the property of the remaining of the Republic is a fraternal and reminiscent Order, and the property of the remaining of the Republic is a fraternal and reminiscent Order, and the property of the Republic is a fraternal and reminiscent Order, and the property of the Republic is a fraternal and reminiscent Order, and the property of the Republic is a fraternal and reminiscent Order, and the property of the Republic is a fraternal and reminiscent Order, and the property of the Republic is a fraternal and reminiscent Order, and the property of the Republic is a fraternal and reminiscent Order, and the property of the Republic is a fraternal and reminiscent Order, and the property of the Republic is a fraternal and reminiscent Order, and the property of the Republic is a fraternal and reminiscent Order, and the property of the Republic is a fraternal and reminiscent Order, and the property of the Republic is a fraternal and reminiscent Order, and the property of the Republic is a fraternal and reminiscent Order, and the property of the Republic is a fraternal and reminiscent order. organization.

It should be stated that a comrade contributed money to print 10,000 copies of (Four years)\$116,136,275.00 the second speech, and a lady friend Grant's second Administra-is urgent need of a closer touch and larger similar amount for printing extra copies sympathy with and for each other. "Kind of both speeches, for free distribution to words are more than coronets," and the the comrades. This liberality will receive comradely cheer that knows no shadow of your full commendation. This unknown turning, this side of the grave, should be friend sent me \$500, by the hand of the the unfailing basis of our relations to the Governor, for use in aid of deserving ob-Grand Army. It is a source of peculiar jects in connection with the Grand Army, thus acknowledge the good that has been markable record of concord has followed done by reason of this thoughtful and generous donation. It has carried sunshine to many sorely burdened souls in our Or-

The result of the publication of the ad dresses was a deepened interest in this much discussed problem. Your Pension Committee formulated such amendments as bore out the recommendations of the 33d National Encampment, and pressed them upon the attention of the Congress with resolute courage and unfailing dignity and earnestness. To keep alive the interest in this work, your Commander-in-Chief made a tour of visitations through Southern Departments and constantly pressed to the front the objects sought in the legislation in question. The claim made was that our pension laws were mos liberal and in the main satisfactory, and that the complaints made were generally against their interpretation by those charged with their execution. To avoid irritation of an unhappy sort, amendments were thought necessary so as to make lear the meaning of our pension laws, be yond the changing rules established for xecuting them by different officials.

It is a source of great gratification to e able to state that the amendments to the pension law of 1890 proposed by you dministration were unanimously passed y the Congress and that every speech unde was in their favor. And it is beleved that with a liberal and just execuution of present pension laws, little furher in way of pension legislation will be ecessary to secure for the great majority f the dependent saviors of the Nation the ulfillment of the pledged faith of the peole in behalf of those who periled their all, n the morning of their lives, for Liberty and Union. The report of the Pension committee will give full details of its cork, and your special and close consider tion is drawn to this important review of he year's efforts along pension lines. In Army for a detailed review of the varieview of the high character and prominence of the members of this committee, your Commander-in-Chief has left this branch of the work of the Grand Army to be nainly presented by them to the Encamp-

PENSION OFFICE OFFICIAL DATA.

Through the courtesy of the Honorable ommissioner of Pensions, H. Clay Evns, the following official data is furnished for the information of comrades. Your Commander-in-Chief submits these most The report of the Quartermaster-Gen-interesting and instructive facts as worthy

MEMORANDUM.

Showing number of pension certificates issued in fiscal year ending June 30, 1900

		Allowed Invalids.	Allowed Widows,e
1	Act Inno 1890	91 945	12,173
1	General law	1,690	3,304
L	Mexican war	21	420
	Indian War	10	144
1	Old wars		5
	Nurses Spanish War	801	710
1	Totals	23,867	16,778
	Totals Total original issues Total restorations .	.	40,6

Dropped by deaths................. 35,809 Dropped by remarriages...... 909 Dropped by all other causes.... 6,676 Increase for year of............ 20,010 Number of claims of all kinds—originals, increase, reratings, etc.—pending: July 1, 1897 578,099 July 1, 1898 635,059 COMPARATIVE. Allowances and rejections of original laims for fiscal years ending June 30, 1894, and 1898; Ciaims, old laws. 894......14,249 14,490 8,901 Claims, act 1890. Allowed, Rejected. that I would try and make "a busy year spect for our patriotic organization. In Claims allowed (31½ per cent).... 39,085 of the pension laws from being impartially among comrades." I appear before you to brief, I have given my whole time and Claims rejected (68½ per cent).... 84,562 carried out. Your Commander in Chief Claims adjudicated123,647 1898, first year McKinley's Administra-THE PENSION QUESTION. Claims allowed (52 per cent)..... 52,648

Your administration from the first re-Claims rejected (48 per cent)..... 48,114

that ients 1890,	Number of cases on appeal from action of Bureau of Pensions to the Department of the Interior showing number of cases affirmed and number of cases reversed for the four years ending June 30, 1900:					
rave	Year.	Annents.	Affirmed.			
ob-	1897	4,949	4,403	395		
0.0 MONTH 1	4.6700	462 650	4.222	396		
Http:	1899	8,845	4,941	371		
and-	1899 1900	7,520	5,575	376		
con-		33,371	19,141	1,540		
es-	Memo -O	the 37	Lowerson	In 1900		

test medical examination; about the same per cent. for other years prevail.

Total amount paid for pensions during President Grant's first Administration;

Average for years 1869 to

Paid during McKinley Administration: First year.....\$144,651,879.80 Memo.-The first year of the McKinley

Disbursements for pensions and main-June 30, 1900:

For pensions......\$2,528,373,147,28 For medical examinations 16,532,929.58 For salaries and all other expenses of Bureau... For salaries and other ex-12,614,990.79

Total...... 2,612,329,690.80 The above statement covers amount of pensions paid and all other expenses incident to the maintenance of the service.

"High-Water Mark."

The last year of the Harrison Administration there was paid out for pensionsfiscal year ending June 30, 1893-\$156,-

In June, 1893, under the Cleveland Adinistration, a Board of Revision was rented; the action of the previous Adninistration was reviewed, thousands of cases were reduced and dropped, so that for the year 1894, the first year of that Administration, there was paid for pensions, \$139,986,626,17, or a reduction of \$16.819.911.87. Dropped by Board of Revision in 1895,

Reduced by Board of Revision in 1895.

COMPARATIVE. Exhibit of droppings from rolls for the six years ending June 30, 1900, for each

Year.	By Death.	Re- marriage.	Minor	Failure to,	Other Causes.	Total.
1900 1899 1898 1897 1896	25,809 84,345 83,691 31,960 29,393 27,816	909 983 1,369 1,074 1,141 1,204	1,402 1,631 2,124 1,845 1,684 1,144	1,728 2,029 3,031 2,683 2,552 2,567	3,486 4,198 6,436 3,560 8,323 9,680	43,33 43,18 46,65 41,12 44,09 42,41
	193,014	6,680	9,830	14,590	36,683	260,79

PENSION COURT OF APPEALS.

The fact that different rules and different interpretations of the same laws have been established in the execution o pension legislation makes it clearly appar ent that a Pension Court of Appeals should be provided, so as to insure the fair and impartial judicial settlement of all disputed claims for pensions, in a competent such cases. Your administration brought this subject to the attention of the President of the United States, and submitted a bill for his consideration to carry into effect the recommendations made to him as detailed in a letter accompanying the same. It was afterwards decided to present the bill to Congress, and it was intro duced in both the Senate and the House of Representatives in the closing days of the last session, too late to be acted upon. This proposed bill provides what is believed to be ample ways and means for promptly and satisfactorily adjudicating the more than 14,000 appeal cases now pending and in a way just to applicants and to the Government. The full details souri, Indian Territory, and West Vir- Names added to rolls 45,338 of this measure were submitted to Con-

gress when the bill was introduced, and to Act of 1890. 34,152 this interesting data reference is made for General laws. 25,298 old wars. 803 important proposed legislation. In view of the conceded justice and need of this Total certificates issued......105,591 measure by leading jurists of the country, Total certificates issued 1899... 89,054 comrades are urgently requested to do all in their power to secure its early passage by Congress.

The time has come for promptly disposing of all appeal cases in the Pension Office before a judicial tribunal worthy of the veterans who saved this Republic to full freedom in the 60's. From a careful consideration of the whole subject your Commander-in-Chief feels that the early passage of this Pension Court of Appeals amount of letter writing and secure prompt justice to all applicants for a pension, and place the Pension Department on a basis of legal adjudication of pension cases, at once generally satisfactory and commandingly just to all interests con-cerned. Generous pension laws are one tion is quite another matter, as the action of the Pension Office furnishes abundant proof during the past few years.

What is needed, beyond doubt, is a Per sion Court of Appeals to provide interpre 18,661 tations of the law in a competent court, with high judicial functions, so that there shall hereafter be no grounds for charg-24,836 65,901 shall hereafter be no grounds for charg-ing that political consideration of party 1894, first year Cleveland's Administra- policy or the personal idiosyncracies of pension officials pervert the true purpose has given this proposed measure his hearty support, and regards it as among the most useful and most desirable pension meas ures ever introduced into Congress. It should early become a law, and so settle for all time to come the constantly arising pension applicants. And this proposed court would be desirable in settling claims for pensions under the Spanish-American war and any future wars.

UNHAPPY IRRITATIONS.

It is a source of great regret that the Pension Department is widely criticised by a large number of worthy applicants for pensions, under the belief that their claims are not treated in a liberal and just way, under the present administration of the pension laws. Such a state of feelmanders, Aids-de-Camp, and faithful coming Washington—in behalf of right and of these were sent back for special examining is greatly to be deplored, for it gives in the second of these were sent back for special examining is greatly to be deplored, for it gives in the second of these were sent back for price to irritations of an unfortunate and unhappy sort. Your Commander-in-Chief has given dil-

igent and painstaking attention to many of these complaints, and loyal efforts have been made to compose the unhappy feeling of dissatisfaction that exists in this connection. The impartial and worthy execution of our pension laws unquestionably calls for great prudence and wisdom on the part of those charged with the duty of their adjudication. The great weakness undoubtedly to be found is the faulty present system in force in the Pension Office. Nothing should be left to individual inter-of officials as it is of a proper judicial system in the execution of our generous allowances and paid them out of pension laws. With the proposed Pension the 1894 appropriation, thereby avoiding Court of Appeals once duly organized the whole atmosphere of the Pension Office would be quickly changed into as harmotenance of system from July 1, 1865, to nious and popular a branch of the Govof the Treasury, of the Postoffice and of form. 16,532,929.58 Justice. For then the law would be effective under high judicial interpretation. Your Commander-in-Chief believes that the passage of the proposed Pension Court of Appeals Bill would bring harmony and settle, once for all, the vexing questions and irritations now so pronounced in the Pension Office, through its wise provisions for interpreting the pension laws and ability to speedily clear the appeal cases now burdening the files of the Department of the Interior. And this view, strongly held, leads to the urgent and repeated appeals made in this address for comrades to neglect no opportunity to aid in securing the passage of this most important and righteous measure. With it peace and concord and full justice in pension cases would be secured; without it, no end of heart burnings and irritations will continue.

VETERANS IN PUBLIC SERVICE. The able and well-advised reference to the important topic of "Veterans in the Public Service" in the annual report of Department Commander Kay, of New York, is so pertinent that I include a portion herewith. He says:

"Not much less important than the pen sion question is that which affects the veteran in his desire to earn a living. No pension can compensate the want of employ ment. No honor can come to the Govern ment that fails through neglect or refuse: to assist its soldiers and sailors honorably discharged, by a reasonable preference in the public service, particularly those who volunteer. * * While the people of the State of New York, through popular vote, have engrafted into the Constitution recognition of the veterans of the Civil War, giving them a tangible preference in the civil service, no act of Congress has ever been passed through which as a matter of right those who served out their terms of enlistment or were discharged from service at the close of the great war, even though wounded t dozen times, receive any consideration under the National Government in the public service. Nothing but a recommend-atory statute, Sec. 1775, signed by our martyr President, Abraham Lincoln, more onored in breach than by observance, by he gratitude-or lack of it-shown by the Congress to the men who saved the Union. This is not so through any failure in way of effort. Time and again, for the past 20 years, attention has been called to the matter, bills have been introduced to bring court specially authorized to deal with it about, but never meeting with success,

In view of the long years of earnest efforts put forth by this faithful comrade in this connection, special attention is called to the report of the committee of which he is Chairman covering fully this great subject.

PATRIOTIC TEACHING AND CIVICS.

The subject of patriotic teaching and civies has been a prominent issue in the past history of the Grand Army, and great good along all patriotic lines of education has been the result. The action taken in the Department of New York, as set forth in General Orders No. 6, issued Aug. 5 1897, may well be referred to as proof of



Dread Days DIXIE

By SILAS W. CROCKER, Co. I, 6th Pa. Reserves, and Co. E, 191st Pa.

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Suffering and Death at Salisbury.

was very prevalent, and rheumatism was and stiff in death. universal. To these as the weather grew older was added pneumonia, or, as we Late in the Fall our keepers issued two

odging in the stockade there was but lit- soon after our arrival at Salisbury he took federacy, they could summon moral courle sickness and comparatively few deaths, disease, and although he stood it longer age and firmness to say no, suffering pange he removal from Belle Island with all its than many others was finally forced to go, of hunger and cold which those who have lisappointment having revived us for a During his last days he was raving crazy eason, but it was not long before hardly and talked much about his family. Some each day adding to their already full cup man in the prison was exempt from one of us were near to give him water con- of misery, then dying this lingering death. or more of the prevailing diseases, many stantly, and I lay by him the night he knowing well long beforehand what the being afflicted with several at the same died. He had appeared better, and I fell end would be. Who but patriotic Ameritime. Diarrhea prevailed to an alarming asleep, and when I awoke the form of cans have made such a record as this? extent, and was very fatal. Senryy also Halsy Burnham was lying across me, cold

FARCICAL ATTEMPT AT SHELTER.



"THROW DOWN THEM EARS OF CORN, YOU THIEVING YANK."

ernment as are those of the Departments called it, lung fever, in its most virulent | tents to each squad. These were designed take charge of the things, sell them to

will also be remembered that the blankets, were confiscated at the start. Our garer, being warmly clothed, and the fact that I shall tell presently. they gave up the fight for life and died

ply appalling. 1 witnessed many scenes of extreme sufvast pit of anguish and woe, I soon benot much moved by them. I will relate one or two incidents, however, which, impression on my mind.

TWO OUT OF MANY.

As I was going to the well one day I the grave. aw a man whom I had often spoken to, but whose name, if I ever knew, I have touched my heart, and I could not help and have a jolly time generally. weeping with him, but his sorrow was too ot know this man's regiment, but remem- | contract made with us. ber that he wore a clover leaf badge on the Second Corps.

his enlistment removed from their old home in Pennsylvania to a new one near Sheboygan, Mich., where he was to join

capture of all the 10,000 older prisoners and one Sibley, to a squad. They were proved a great blessing to us. was June, July and August, and just af- old condemned tents, and furnished little

Sometimes we would hold our shirts over then. fering, but the whole stockade being one the fire and, giving the garment a quick I come now to the relation of an event shake, hundreds of the "critters" would in my prison experience which made it came accustomed to such things, and was fall. At such times the noise of their possible for me to live to write this story, bursting bodies resembled that made by and also, I am sure, saved the lives of throwing a handful of salt on hot coals, several comrades. I have said that we hardened as I had become, made a vivid This scourge was not the least of our were given a small quantity of wood each troubles, and I am confident that their day. At first this wood was brought near ravages hurried hundreds of poor teen to the stockade by a detail of negroes, but

Soon as we had been starved down unforgotten, sitting by a tree weeping bitter- til we had become perfectly "tame," rebel so they must perform their own drudgery. ly. Thinking to comfort him, I went to officers visited the stockade frequently him and asked what was the trouble. He and urged us to enlist in their army. They held up a daguerreotype of a woman and told us that we would not be placed in I was at the small gate one morning early, two bright-looking children, and said he the field to fight our friends, but would wishing for something, I knew not what, was thinking of them and of his far-off only be asked to do guard duty; that we to happen. I have said that this gate home in Massachusetts. His manner would get good clothes and plenty to eat, was on the west side of the stockade, and

In short, service in the rebel army as business inside the stockade passed in or deep to be assuaged by any sympathy I represented by them was a regular picnic, out. I used to go there often, as this was could offer, so I soon left him. It hap- They told us they were doing for us the the only chance to vary the monotony of pened that I passed that way again late very best they could here. An argument prison life. When the gate opened I in the afternoon, and seeing him still sit- used often to influence our loyalty, which could get a glimpse of the guard-house ting there, went to him again. The poor had quite a flavor of truth in it, and was and some of the town beyond, which was man was dead! His lifeless hand still very tempting, was that no oath we had a change and something of a relief. Then held the picture of his wife and little ones. taken as soldiers in the United States the prison sutler had his store just north got some comrades to help me carry his Army was binding on us now, because our of this gate, and it did me some good to body to the dead-house, where we laid it Government had deserted us and had vir- look over his stock of ancient sweet-poout the best we could, placing the picture tually sentenced us to our hard fate by tato pies and other dainties, even if I under his crossed hands on his breast, and refusing to exchange for us, and by this could not buy a spoonful of his salt. t was probably buried with him. I do act was already the first violator of its

By way of frightening us we were also his cap, indicating that he belonged to told that it was a question of only a short wood at once." time when we would all die there if we I went up to him and offered to go becruiting officers had little effect.

hem when the war should end. He had ordinary courage and loyalty under the sey Lathrop, of my own company, went seen promoted to Corporal in the old conditions I have tried to describe as en- with me to the gate. ompany, and had shown me many favors. veloping us in the prison pen at Salis-

sufficient to hold out faithful to the end s (in my own estimation, at least) the brightest page in my life's history. My feeling and determination in this matter was shared by most of my comrades, and I do not remember of a single native American enlisting into the rebel army from the stockade at Salisbury. They in thousands of instances literally chose death rather than dishenor, for these offers began soon after our arrival here, and those graves at Salisbury are a mighty monument lasting as our flag itself to the heroic love of country which pervaded the souls of these brave men whose bodies fill them. With only the condition of raising their right hand to heaven and swearing For the first few days after we took is nothing after you get used to it." But allegiance to the so-called Southern Connot experienced can never understand,

A limited number of subscribers

will receive an extra copy this

week. Each is requested to kindly

hand the extra copy to some com-

rade who does not take the paper,

with the end in view of securing

Of course, several prisoners enlisted into the rebel army, but the number was relatively very small. I never knew just how many, but it was somewhere between two and three thousand. We called them "Galvanized Yahkees," and greeted them with hisses when they went outside. It will be understood that they did not go all at one time, but in squads. Two of my company, Germans, went with these, I saw one on guard on the stockade afterwards. I hailed him and asked for tobacco. He made no reply and pretended not to recognize me. I will only add, for the information of my own company comrades who may see this, that this man came back to our camp on Arlington Hights about June, 1865, dressed in rebel uniform, reported as an escaped prisoner, was promoted Sergeant by Capt. P. L. Norton in a few days, and was honorably discharged with the rest of us.

A QUEER CHARACTER.

There was ample opportunity here to study human nature in all its many phases, for the varieties of men were perhaps all represented. One would hardly expect to find many misers in such a place, but in the squad to which I belonged was a well-developed specimen. He was a member of my own company, and if I remember rightly his name was Theodors Radman. I am not positive as to his name, but he is the man I have spoken of as getting through the search at Libby with a good pair of boots, a silver-cased watch and a fine meerschaum pipe. He was quite an old man, and the privations of the prison bore heavily on him, but he never complained.

Finally he became so sick and weak that he could not eat the prison rations at all, and was urged to dispose of either the pipe or watch, either of which would bring him quite a sum in Confederate money, and on which he might have fared well for weeks; but his answer always was that he could not spare them. He would not even sell the buttons off his coat to procure better food. Of course he grew rapidly worse and soon died, more of starvation than disease, and left his property to be used by others.

When he died the Orderly-Sergeant called together the surviving members of the company and told us that he would to furnish shelter for not more than 30 the best advantage and divide the pro-It will be remembered that the date of men, one being of the common A pattern ceeds among us. This was done, and

The hoots were the means of securing ter the severe Wilderness campaign, and protection to those who were able to crowd me an interview with Richardson, the we in the army had long since learned to into them. At the best we could do there New York Tribune correspondent, of whom carry nothing but what was indispensa- was not room for half of us in these tents. I have spoken. He, with several others ble, consequently when captured we none Dubois, Renschler and myself held to our in the citizens' building, had perfected a of us had much superfluous clothing. It own dugout, and allowed others to have plan of escape, and only waited to secure our space in the tents. We also took in boots or shoes that would stand a long shelter tents, etc., of the older prisoners another partner about this time in the tramp. I happened to hear these men person of John Burroughs, a member of making inquiry for shoes soon after Radments, too, had been subjected to unusual the 18th Pa. Cay. John was a good fel- man died, and told them I knew of a pair wear since being in prison, so by the time low, and said afterward that he owed his of boots for sale, and Richardson asked Winter had fairly set in most of us who life to the fact of his becoming a member me to bring them up, and if of the right had been at Belle Island were already of "our firm," as we happened to unusual size he would pay a good price for them. well-nigh naked, but those brought in lat- good luck soon after he joined us, of which So I went at once to Serg't Belcher, who accompanied me to the citizens' building. At last two things we had in abundance The boots were tried on, pronounced an faster than the old hands, enabled many at Salisbury-to wit, air and vermin. I excellent fit, and Richardson paid \$10 in poor fellows to secure better garments by am satisfied that I killed bushels of them Confederate money for them. This party stripping the bodies of the dead. All sen- single-handed. I would search my ragged made their escape soon after this and timent and even sympathy seemed dead, garments and kill all I could find daily, made their way to the Union lines near and we had sunk into a sort of stupor and but would hardly get dressed again till Knoxville, going part of the way by the indifference for the time which was sim- the "varmints" would be galloping over same route taken by me later in the Winme in apparently undiminished numbers, ter, but I of course knew nothing of this

it was decided by Maj. Gee that the Yankees under his charge were not quite blueblooded enough to deserve colored waiters, THE WOOD SQUAD.

I do not recollect the exact date, but was the place that all footmen having

The gate opened and an officer stepped

inside and said: "I want 16 prisoners to go out after

Another sad case was that of Halsey failed to accept the gracious offer of serv- fore his words had gotten cold, as I feared Burnham, of my own company. He had ice in the glorious army of the Confed- I would not hear them again. There wife and three children, who had since eracy; but as we were already apprised of wasn't another prisoner near, so I ran to that fact the being told of it by these re- the quarters of our squad and hurriedly told them the glorious news. Several of I have never laid claim to more than my friends, among them Dubois and Hal-

When we arrived the gate was shut le stood the test of Belle Island well bury, yet resolved then and there that oth- and no officer was in sight. The boys beis the best of us, and was remarkably ers might do as they would, but that 1 gan to accuse me of playing them a cruel good-spirited, often saying when some of would never desert the flag of my country, practical joke, bringing them out there in he boys would begin grumbling that "this and the fact that I had moral courage the cold wind for nothing, and I had be-